



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
PATENT OPERATION

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In re application
of

Inventor: Robert M. Ford
Serial No.: 09/330,466
Filed: June 11, 1999
Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MANAGING TIER-PRICED
COMMODITIES TRANSACTIONS
Art Unit: 2163
Examiner: CHOI, K.

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Signature

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 3, 4, 9 and 10-15 as follows and cancel claims 5 and 6. The amendments are shown in detail in Attachment 1.

1. (Amended) A method for managing the sale of a tier-priced commodity comprising the steps of:
 - a. determining a first price for a commodity at a first tier;
 - b. determining a second price for said commodity at a second tier;